

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Thank you

To the Editor:

The Mendocino County Railway Society (MCRS) would like to thank the Mendocino County Museum and all the generous volunteers who gave "their all" to the Hand Car Races, Kinetic Carnivale and Grand Ball last weekend. The museum deserves the community's appreciation from all of us for continuing this special event.

Our MCRS mission is to promote economically and environmentally sound transportation. We appreciate every opportunity to educate about rail: the history of our local railways and also to help create a future vision of local trolley, light rail and commuter rail to supplant the ever-present automobile. Seeing vehicles on the tracks helps the Willits community to envision and discuss this future.

I also want to credit our MCRS president, Richard Jergenson, for keeping his ear to the rail. He predicted that the wildly successful Annual Handcar Regatta of Santa Rosa would need a new location as SMART began to run on the NWP tracks. A few years ago MCRS invited the producers of that very event up to Willits for a tour of the Roots of Motive Power yard and to see our Willits Depot track configuration. We pioneered the idea of a Hand Car race up here, and are grateful that it came to pass, and continues every year.

The race was fun and a bit crazy, and all enjoyed it. Thanks to the museum for providing shade for the race, and to the Willits Charter School for their refreshment stand.

Again, thank you Willits for supporting this fun and successful event; see you next year at the tracks!

**Ann Waters, secretary,
Mendocino County Railway Society**

Next generation leadership

To the Editor:

Yesterday I attended a beautiful memorial for an old friend which was held at the Willits Recreation Grove park. Everywhere I looked there were old friends – the "old back to the landers" who, like me, moved to Willits 30 to 40 years ago, built their homes and raised their families here. We joked about how time had done some shape-shifting on the bodies, so it was key to focus on the eyes to recognize each other!

I looked beyond my peers to see how amazingly fast our children have grown up – children we birthed here in Willits, now birthing their own families.

I thought about how it's their time now – these 25- to 45-year-olds. They have new families, new needs, new dreams, new energy.

I thought about why I was at the park. We "baby booming back to the landers" are aging and, yes, also dying.

We need to empower, encourage and support this next generation to take over leadership in our community, our county, our world!

Please join me in electing Holly Madrigal as our next-generation next supervisor. She has the vision, the energy and the political experience to bring us into the future in a sustainable manner. Thank you.

Cindy Morninglight, Willits

Willits Rotary Club's Tom Herman, left, presents a "check" for \$8,900 to Phoenix Hospice's Tammy Long and Hospice Medical Director Dr. Charles Holt.

Thank you

To the Editor:

The 16th Annual Willits Rotary Phoenix Hospice Golf Tournament on June 1 earned \$8,900 for the Phoenix Hospice. The proceeds earned from hospice fundraising events such as the golf tournament make hospice care available to members of our communities regardless of financial circumstances.

Hospice, to quote Phoenix Hospice Director Nancy Runyan: "is based on the belief that every life matters and on giving state-of-the-art medical care that comforts and eases pain. When medicine can add no more days to life, hospice can add more life to the remaining days."

We could not do what we do without the generous support of our sponsors and businesses who donate money to support the cause of hospice. These are truly a loving group of business owners.

Thank you to our sponsors and donors in Willits: Earl Myers, OP, Willits Power Equipment, Artist Linda Grace, Lisa Epstein/State Farm Insurance, Willits Power Equipment, Country Skillet, Northwest Sporting Goods, Les Schwab Tires, MCI Transformer Corporation, Redwood Meadows, Northbrook Healthcare Center, Brooktrails Golf Course, Baechtel Creek Inn, Celtic Heritage Destinations, Willits Tire Center, DripWorks, Frank R. Howard Foundation, Little Lake Auto Parts, J.D. Redhouse, H & R Block, Brown's Corner, Yokum's Body Shop, Gary Roussan, North Valley Bank, Super 8 Motel, Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, Moon Lady /Moon Man, Willits Furniture, GlenMark Self Storage, SHN Consulting Engineers & Geologists, Willits Redwood Company, Brad Walton, CPA, Old Mission Pizza, City Nails, Sparetime Supply, Mendo-Lake Home Respiratory Services, Holy Child Residential Care Homes, Law Offices of John Smoot, Harrah Industries, and Adams Restaurant.

In Ukiah and beyond, thanks to sponsors and donors: Habitat, Brookside Retirement Residence, Redwood Cove Healthcare Center, Heidi's Yarn Haven, Ukiah Healthcare Post Acute Rehabilitation & Nursing, Simona's Italian Restaurant, Stars Restaurant, Kohl's, Ukiah Valley Golf Course, Jerry & Carol Myers/State Farm Insurance, Savings Bank of Mendocino County, Mendocino Bridal & Tux, Living Your Life Ministries, Les Schwab Tires, Ukiah Valley Medical Center, Norge Cleaning and Laundry, Gary L. Nix/Realtor, Mountain View Assisted Living, Scissorhands Salon, Mendocino Wine Company, Buckingham Golf Course and Country Club, Benbow Hotel & Resort Golf Course, and Little River Inn & Golf Course.

Tammy Long, Adventist Health Homecare & Phoenix Hospice Services, Willits



Open letter

To the Editor:

Dear Congressman Jared Huffman and Army Corps of Engineers: We are dismayed at the latest news of Caltrans' proposals attempting to meet their commitment to reduce the impacts on wetlands and streams, as they agreed to do as a condition of reinstatement of their 404 permit.

We believe Caltrans' proposals are inadequate and continue to involve major, avoidable impacts on wetlands, streams, and cultural resources.

Caltrans continues to summarily reject the option of postponing construction of the huge northern interchange without any solid rationale to justify this. They make arguments that it would require redesign causing a year's delay and extra cost, but this is not borne out by any documentation and defies common sense.

In fact, it appears such an adjustment to the existing design could be accomplished by a simple change order. As detailed in previous correspondence, it would directly save wetlands, time and money – not to mention potentially reducing the amount of mitigation work.

Another important factor is the impact on cultural resources. In contrast to the information contained in earlier environmental documents, the entire bypass route, and in particular this northern area, is now known to be rich in Native American artifacts, including a village and possible burial sites.

Reducing the footprint of the bypass is the least that can be done to preserve this irreplaceable heritage.

It appears the rejection of this option is entirely premised on Caltrans' desire to "pave the way" for the future 4-lane expansion of the bypass. We again note that postponing the northern interchange in no way precludes nor adds any significant obstacle to that future possibility.

And we emphasize that it is extremely unlikely that there will ever be a Phase 2, due to funding constraints and lack of need.

Eliminating the roundabout while building the huge interchange is backwards from what should occur. The "savings" in wetland impacts appear minimal. It would be a travesty to reject a simple change that saves substantial wetlands for the foreseeable future in favor of such an inadequate proposal that would make sense only if Phase 2 were a likely prospect.

Moreover, eliminating the roundabout actually makes access between the bypass and Willits less convenient for the large share of traffic involved (commuters to and from Laytonville, Brooktrails, and so forth).

Finally, we still see no proposals that compensate for the extensive temporal losses that have occurred.

If irreversible commitments proceed on the northern interchange, with moving some 900,000 cubic yards of fill, channeling streams and building bridges, it appears that Caltrans will bear no significant consequences for their past delays or failures – let alone for the next round of direct impacts and the uncertainty of their future mitigation measures.

We urge that, for once, Caltrans be required to revise their over-ambitious, costly and environmentally destructive plans in favor of a solution that protects environmental and cultural resources and improves benefits to the public.

**Madge Strong,
for Save Our Little Lake
Valley, Willits**

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The Rules: **LETTERS**

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and 3rd District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the 3rd District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once a month.

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.

Where are the WW boxes?

1. Old Mission Pizza	6. Scoops
2. Brewed Awakening	7. J.D. Redhouse
3. Ace Copy and Shipping	8. The Country Skillet
4. Willits Post Office	9. Village Market
5. Ardella's Downtown Diner	10. Willits Library
	11. Mariposa Market

Free speech

To the Editor:

Putting signs up for political people to vote for is free speech. This is not visual pollution. We are losing too much free speech because of silly people that can't stand change. I don't vote for people like that.

Also, the front yard at the new college looks awful and dried up. Sure isn't pretty.

Shirley Streeter, Willits

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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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REMEMBERING

the GARDEN



Tour Willits Gardens

Saturday August 23

10:00am-5:00pm

Registration at Willits Elementary Charter School 9:30-10:00am

(located at corner of E Commercial and S Lenore Ave)

Carpooling may be arranged for viewing 5 Community Gardens

and the Grange Farm School

Lunch, dessert, and raffle - \$15.00*



This event is co-sponsored by
NCO & WELL



For additional information contact Wendy at 456-9429 or Paul at 459-1418

* tour only-sliding fee scale

Right: The community garden at the Willits Integrated Services Center; WELL garden tour 2013.



Below: 2013 Garden Tour attendees at the Golden Rule farm.

'Remembering the Garden'

A tour of community gardens in and around Willits

The annual WELL Garden Tour, co-sponsored this year by Willits Economic Localization and by North Coast Opportunities, is set for Saturday, August 23. This year's tour, "Remembering the Garden," spotlights five community gardens in and around Willits, and will also include a visit to the Grange Farm School at Ridgewood Ranch.

"Participants will have a chance to visit the gardens and discover these gems alongside our busy streets in and around Willits," WELL writes.

"Attend the tour for \$15 and receive lunch, dessert and a raffle ticket for a beautiful basket of fresh produce from the visited gardens." Tour only for a sliding scale fee.

"Remembering the Garden" starts at the Willits Elementary Charter School garden on the corner of Lenore and Commercial streets, with registration at 9:30 am. Carpooling will be arranged. For more info: call Paul Jacobsen at 459-1418.



Local student visits D.C. to learn about health careers

A Willits High School student was one of 28 teenagers nationwide to participate in the 16th Association of American Indian Physicians' National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) program.

Damon Niesen, a member of the Round Valley Indian Tribes, attended the nine-day program held in Washington, D.C. this summer. The Association of American Indian Physicians sponsors the program to educate and encourage more Native American students to pursue careers in health professions.

"The program really helped me learn more about all the different careers that are available in the medical field," student Niesen said. "NNAYI also helped me make sure that I want to become an ER nurse."

"We expose the students to a variety of health careers," explains Gary Lankford, program director. "The summer program allows them to visit national health organizations and academic institutions."

The students were taken on field trips that included tours of the National Institutes of Health, George Washington University School of Medicine, Georgetown University and Association of American Medical Colleges.

Students attended a series of lectures and interactive workshops that featured guest speakers who are physicians, researchers, and educators in the field of medicine.

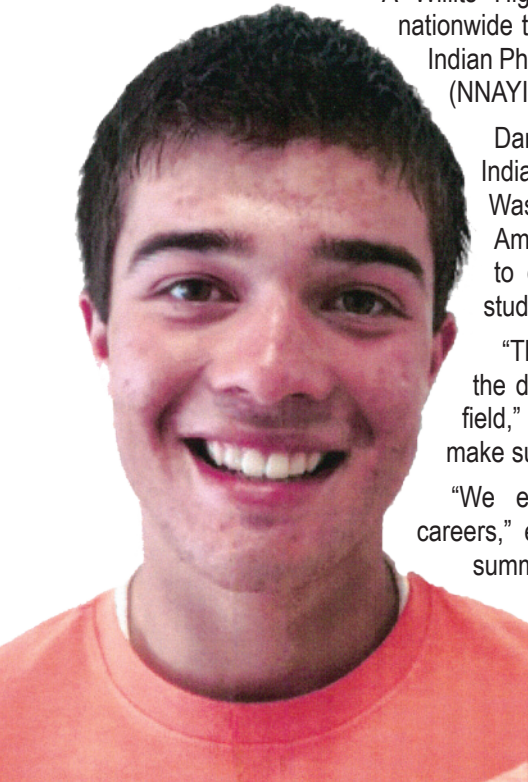
"It's important for the students to hear from these health care professionals. They're successful Native Americans who serve as role models and mentors. They inspire our students to continue their education and set high goals," says Lankford.

"This experience exposed me to new friends and contacts that will last a lifetime," Niesen said. "I couldn't have experienced any of this without the help and love from my family and friends and a generous donation from the Black Bart Casino." Niesen is the son of Amy Buckingham.

NNAYI was created in 1998 to increase the number of American Indian/Alaska Native students entering health professions and biomedical research. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for admission to college and professional schools. Students also receive information regarding financial aid, counseling, and other college-related assistance.

Over the past decade, more than 573 students have received scholarships to attend the NNAYI program. To be selected for the NNAYI summer program, students must be age 16 to 18 and express interest in healthcare or biomedical research. Applications will be taken in the spring of 2015 for the 2015 National Native American Youth Initiative program. For more information, visit www.aaip.org or call 405-946-7072.

- submitted for the National Native American Youth Initiative program



Weekly Promotions for September

SUNDAYS – Sunday Funday
Earn and Receive begins at 3:00 p.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m.
Earn 150 points, receive \$10 Free Play
Random Hot Seat Drawings: 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. for \$25 Cash

MONDAYS – Rooster & Owls
Morning Session: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 9, 10, 11 a.m. and 12 p.m.
Evening Session: 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 7, 8, 9 and 10 p.m.
May win once per promotion day!
For both Morning and Evening sessions: Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay and a \$2.00 Food Coupon

TUESDAYS – Guys Night
6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay.
Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6-9:30 p.m. for \$25 Cash, last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash.

WEDNESDAYS – Ladies Night
6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay.
Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6-9:30 p.m. for \$25 Cash, last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash.

THURSDAYS – Super Senior Day
The Senior Freeplay will be preloaded to the Players Club Card.
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.: Hot Seat Drawings each hour. Winners receive \$40 Cash.
Half off lunch coupon for those participating. Specials posted at Creekside Café.
11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Lunch hours.

FRIDAYS – Super Plinko
11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.: Hourly Hot Seat Drawings. Winner will get a chance to play Plinko for a chance to win \$25-\$200 Cash!

JEEP GIVEAWAY
Drawing: Saturday, September 27 after 9:00 p.m.
Use your club card. July 1-September 27, to earn drawing tickets. Every 100 points = 1 drawing ticket for a chance to win a qualifying entry into the Jeep Giveaway. Redeem tickets at Players Club Booth. Tickets must be in the drawing barrel before the 10:00 p.m. ticket drawing. Each Saturday, Random Hot Seat Drawings: 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. for \$50 Cash. Qualifying entry drawing at 10:00 p.m. will be drawn from the ticket barrel. Saturday, September 27, at 9:00 p.m., 3 additional drawings (from the ticket barrel) for qualifying entry into the Jeep Giveaway. Must redeem daily.

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Food, flowers and fun at annual Willits Educational Foundation fundraising event

The fourth annual A Garden Party, co-hosted by Willits Rotary and the Willits Educational Foundation, was a success again this year, with an estimated 300 community members in attendance.

Patrons enjoyed the grounds at Phil and Kathy Shuster's home in the Willits valley while they dined on appetizers, oysters, tri tip and desserts. Kathleen Lewis and her crew created a display of delicious dishes. Tom Allman emceed the event.

The Basics provided musical ambiance for the event, which also included a silent auction and raffle, with many "wonderful items donated by the generous community," said Kathy Shuster.

Tia Lawrence's Cosmo Bar was also a big hit with the adult attendees; the koi pond was a big hit with the younger guests.

The annual event is a fundraiser for supporting the library, arts and music programs in the schools and, though dollars are still being tallied, hopes are that the wonderful weather, great attendance and generous community will make this one of the best events yet!



Top: Delicate coreopsis and penstemon shine in the evening sun at the Shuster garden.

Miss Mendocino 2014 Kassy Aldaco took a great "selfie" with several teachers and staff of the Willits Unified School District.

Photo by Maureen Moore

Photo by Kassy Aldaco

Counterclockwise from above: Willits High School students served guests at the Garden Party.

The koi fish pond is home to several white and orange fish, including this huge one who swam by for a quick closeup.

Barbequed oysters and tri-tip were prepared for the attendees.

Blooming roses are just one of the many lovely sights at the Shusters' garden.

Photos by Susan Jones

Photos by Maureen Moore



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LUCY

(R) 1 hr 29 mins
Fri: 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30pm
Sat/Sun: 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30pm
Mon-Thurs: 5:30 & 7:30pm

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES

(PG13) 1 hr 41 mins
Fri: 3:30, 5:45 & 8:00pm
Sat/Sun: 1:15, 3:30, 5:45 & 8:00pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:45 & 7:00pm

BOYHOOD

(R) 2 hrs 45 mins
Fri: 4:00 & 7:15pm
Sat/Sun: 12:45, 4:00 & 7:15pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:00 & 7:15pm

Thursday, August 21

Shanachie Pub: Steven Bates, guitar. 6 pm, No cover. Visit www.myspace.com/stevenbatesmusician or www.stevenbatesmusic.com. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Brookside School Farm Fundraiser: The Now and Then Film Series presents "Our Daily Bread," as a fundraiser for the Brookside School Farm. 7 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "In this classic 1934 film by King Vidor, two city-dwellers are hit hard by the financial fist of the Depression. Driven by bravery (and sheer desperation) they flee to the country and, with the help of other workers, set up a farming community which suffers many hardships – including drought, temptation and the long arm of the law – but ultimately pulls together for a Utopian finish. This artful black & white film paints a compelling picture of the struggle and hardships faced by Americans during this troubled economic period." Suggested donation of \$5 to \$100 Info: 459-6362.

Brooktrails Lodge: Ladies Night every Thursday at the Lodge's Caminiti's Lounge, 8 pm to 2 am. \$3 drink specials. The Dream Capsule Band presents live music and karaoke. 24675 Birch Street. Info: 459-1596.

Friday, August 22

Free Zumba for Teens: Zumba is always free for teenagers on Friday nights at Studio Joy, 1262 Blosser Lane. Class at 6 pm with Melissa. Info: 707-841-7499 or www.studiojoywillits.com.

Shanachie Pub: Blue Luke and the Living Drums, featuring Steve Loebes aka "The Living Drum" with special guest Amadou Camara from Guinea West Africa: "multicultural fusions of universal rhythm." 9 pm, \$10 cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Brooktrails Lodge: Open Mic every Friday at the Lodge's Caminiti's Lounge. Live jams featuring local artists: all performers please see Mr. Larry when you arrive. 24675 Birch Street. Info: 459-1596.

Saturday, August 23

Free Sports Physicals: Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital offers free sports physical exams to children in elementary and high school participating in a sports program. Saturday, August 23, from 9 am to 1 pm at the 11 Oaks Conference Room, 1040 South Main Street. Wellness While You Wait, for parents: Howard Hospital is also offering free health screenings and other wellness services for adults, including:

Blood Pressure Check; Blood Sugar Check; Body Mass Index; Strength & Balance Test; and Healthy Eating Demo. To reserve your spot, call: 456-3185.

WELL / NCO Garden Tour: "Remembering the Garden," a tour of community gardens in and around Willits, 10 am to 4 pm. "Discover these gems alongside our busy streets in and around Willits. Additionally we will visit the Grange Farm School at Ridgewood Ranch." This annual event is cosponsored by Willits Economic Localization and North Coast Opportunities. Attend the tour for \$15 and receive lunch, dessert and a raffle ticket for a beautiful basket of fresh produce from the visited gardens. Tour only: sliding scale fee. Tour begins at the Willits Elementary Charter School Garden on the corner of Lenore and Commercial; registration at 9:30 am. Carpooling may be arranged to tour five community gardens, as well as the Grange Farm School. Info: Paul Jacobson, 459-1418.



Call for Auditions: Willits Community Theatre holds auditions for "The Angel of Chatham Square," a nostalgic drama by Healdsburg playwright Audie Foote, on Saturday, August 23 at 11 am at the Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. The call is for two women (30s to early 50s) and six men (30s to 70s). "Set in the depths of New York's Bowery right after World War II, 'The Angel of Chatham Square' tells a simple and heartwarming love story. A young widowed mother must travel back home at night alone. While she waits at a lonely bus stop at Chatham Square, a notoriously dangerous part of town known by locals as "the graveyard," she runs into a group of derelicts who take her under their "wings." One in particular wins her heart, and the play tells the story of how their unusual friendship blossoms into a love affair that spans six decades." "The Angel of Chatham Square" will rehearse from mid-September through early November and will run from November 6 through November 23. Director Christine Dill has participated in local theatre for over 25 years. She has acted, staged managed, and prop mistress for both the Ukiah Players and for Mendocino College. In February 2013 she directed "Same Time, Next Year" for WCT. Scripts are available at the Willits Public Library or call the director at 462-4015.

Molly's Revenge: energetic Celtic trio plays traditional Scottish and Irish music at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, August 23 at 8 pm. "This dynamic, acoustic threesome is known for its unique and infectious performances. The three members, David Brewer, John

Brooktrails Lodge: Open Mic every Friday at the Lodge's Caminiti's Lounge. Live jams featuring local artists: all performers please see Mr. Larry when you arrive. 24675 Birch Street. Info: 459-1596.

A day of art and learning in the North Street Garden, 350 North Street, on Saturday, August 30, with free workshops led by the current class of North Street Affiliated Artists. Plus a field trip to Fort Bragg on Sunday, August 31. Visit www.northstreetcollective.org for more information on North Street Collective, and to RSVP.



Saturday's work-shop schedule: starts at 9 am with a welcome by Noel Woodhouse.

9:30 am: Alaskan Milling led by Noel Woodhouse: "Select, prepare, and mill lumber out of locally sourced logs, using an Alaskan Chainsaw Mill."

10:30 am: Flutemaking led by Tim Oslund: "Work side-by-side with an accomplished woodworker to make your own flute out of the local hardwood of your choice."

Noon: Garden Lunch and Botanical Printmaking led by Melany Katz: "Use a solar transfer technique to make prints from fir tree branches, sprigs, and leaves from the yard."

1:30 pm: Soapmaking, led by Alana Rivera, founder of Etta + Billie skincare products: "Use fir tree needles to create a one-of-a-kind batch of soap."

5 pm: Community Dinner: "Linger over a homemade garden meal to reflect on the day and give input into the future of the North Street Collective."

Sunday: Fort Bragg Field Trip

"We'll visit woodworkers, artisans, galleries, and the forest to gather ideas and learn from the work of our coastal neighbors."

9 am: Coffee and homemade apple tarts, with special guest Robin Freeman, founder of Institute for Sustainable Policy Studies: "Discuss the role of caretaking in creating thriving communities and sustainable economies, including forestry, woodworking, and other local industries."

10 am: Depart for the Coast: "Carpools will caravan out Highway 20."

11 am: Artisan Village: Visit Star Fargey and his fellow artists at their Artisan Village in Fort Bragg.

12 noon: Lunch: "We'll have a stop in downtown Fort Bragg for lunch. Plan to enjoy a local restaurant or bring a bite to eat from home."

1 pm: Lost Coast Culture Machine: "Take a tour of the papermill and gallery work at the Lost Coast Culture Machine in Fort Bragg."

2:30 pm: Jackson State Demonstration Forest: "Hike the beautiful waterfall trail underneath the redwoods."



Save the Date

Roots Annual Steam-Up and Timberworks Lumberjack Show, September 6 & 7

Not JUST Cowboy Poetry, Saturday, September 13, Emandal

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show in Boonville, September 13 to 15

Willits Airport Day & Sixties Fly-In, September 13, Ells Field

Frontier Days Ranch Rodeo, Saturday, September 20, Rodeo Grounds

Round Valley Indian Days Celebration & Softball Tournament, September 26 to 28, Hidden Oaks Park, Round Valley Reservation

'Remembering the Garden'
Photovoice

A photographic "Garden Tour" in conjunction with WELL's "Remembering the Garden" garden tour, set for Saturday, August 23, is being displayed at several locations in town.

Photos were taken in 2013 by the North County Garden Leadership Group representing 10 community and school gardens in and around Willits.

Five of these gardens will be on this Saturday's Garden Tour, "Remembering the Garden." Locations: Willits Library, Brickhouse Coffee, Shanachie Pub, Main Street Music, and Savings Bank of Mendocino in Willits. Each location displays only part of the collection, go to each location to see the show in its entirety!



What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

Tuesday, August 26

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movies: "Lucy," "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" and "Bohhood." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

Wednesday, August 27

Mariposa Market 35th Anniversary: Festivities from 11 am to 4 pm, including music, food, demos, raffles, BBQ and drawings. Each shopper can draw a coupon at the register for 15-35% off their entire purchase. Mariposa Market, 500 South Main Street, 459-9630.



Thursday, August 28

Community HU Song: "In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song, Thursday, August 28, at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm." All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

Brooktrails Lodge: Ladies Night every Thursday at the Lodge's Caminiti's Lounge, 8 pm to 2 am. \$3 drink specials. The Dream Capsule Band presents live music and karaoke. 24675 Birch Street. Info: 459-1596.

Friday, August 29

Free Zumba for Teens: Zumba is always free for teenagers on Friday nights at Studio Joy, 1262 Blosser Lane. Class at 6 pm with Melissa. Info: 707-841-7499 or www.studiojoywillits.com.



Brooktrails Lodge: Open Mic every Friday at the Lodge's Caminiti's Lounge. Live jams featuring local artists: all performers please see Mr. Larry when you arrive. 24675 Birch Street. Info: 459-1596.

Saturday, August 30

North Street Collective Summer Workshop: "Join us for a day of art and learning in the North Street Garden, led by the current class of North Street Affiliated Artists." 9 am to 3 pm on Saturday, August 30, at 350 North Street. Plus a field trip to Fort Bragg on Sunday, August 31. Free workshops;



advanced registration requested. See article elsewhere on Calendar page or visit www.northstreetcollective.org for more info, or to RSVP.

Scottish folksinger Ed Miller: in concert at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, August 30 at 8pm. "Miller has been hailed as one of the finest singers to come out of the recent Scottish folksong revival and one of Scotland's best singing exports.... With a PhD in folklore from the University of Texas, Miller entertains and educates his audiences with wonderful songs and droll stories. He offers up a real taste of Scotland with an extensive repertoire that includes old traditional ballads, the timeless songs of Robert Burns, and contemporary songs of urban change, emigration, nationalism and humor." Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar in Willits, online at brownpapertickets.com, or for credit card orders, phone the WCT office at 707-459-0895. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.



Johnny Sketch & the Dirty Notes: live from New Orleans, at Boomer's Bar & Grill, 45020 North Highway 101, Laytonville. "For over a decade, Johnny Sketch and the Dirty

Notes, a classically trained New Orleans-based band, has delivered a smorgasbord of musical genres every time they hit the stage. JSDN defy easy categorization. Their irreverent funk is cut with rock riffs, a Gypsy/Klezmer flare, a Latin tinge courtesy of a hard hitting horn section, and a wild sense of humor." 9 pm. \$10. Boomer's: 707-984-6534 and www.boomerssaloon.com

Sunday, August 31

North Street Collective Summer Workshop: North Street's field trip to Fort Bragg. See article elsewhere on Calendar page or visit www.northstreetcollective.org for more info, or to RSVP.

Summer Feast 2014: San Francisco's Dance Brigade, in collaboration with CubaCaribe, presents this site-specific

'Songs and Poems from the Spirit' Benefit for Nuestra Alianza

"Songs and Poems from the Spirit," a benefit performance for Nuestra Alianza Family Resource Center of Willits, will be held at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, September 6 at 7 pm. Musician Marcos Pereda and poet-musician Ricardo Stocker will be joined by vocalist Kristine Robin in a fundraiser for the nonprofit center that provides support services for local Hispanic residents.

While utilizing his own lyrics, Pereda performs in the melodic style of Nueva Trova or the New Song movement made popular by fellow Cuban Silvio Rodriguez. Pereda has appeared in concert in Minneapolis, Berkeley, Sacramento and San Jose and played alongside Grammy Award-winner Paul McCandless and guitarist Alex De Grassi.

Originally from Argentina, Stocker is a poet, story-teller and musician whose main work is in the field of consciousness transformation and spiritual evolution. He is a professor of psychology and communication at Mendocino College. Robin is a singer-songwriter who has performed with bands for the past 15 years and released a CD: "Ever Changing Tides."

Proceeds from the event go to support Nuestra Alianza's program of providing skills in employment, language, parenting, nutrition and physical health, along with academic skills for children, computer skills, curriculum writing, and public speaking. The performances will be in Spanish and English. WCT is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub) in Willits.

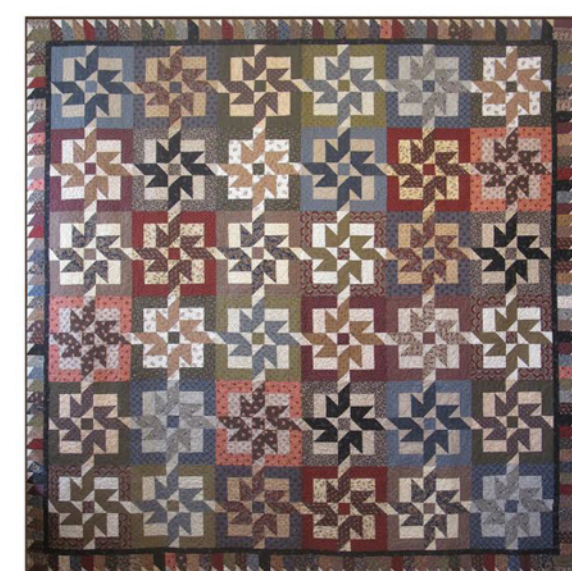
Marcos Pereda Ricardo Stocker



Advance tickets for the benefit show are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com, or phone the WCT office at 459-0895 for credit card orders. Tickets are also available at the door.

— Steve Hellman, for Willits Community Theatre

'Quilty Pleasures'



This year's quilt show put on by the "Girls Gone Stitchin'" (Long Valley Quilters) promises to be a very exciting event. A wide range of items will be shown including quilts, clothing and accessories, and home decor items, as well as works for sale: more than 60 works in all. "Quilty Pleasures" will show Saturday, August 30 from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday, August 31, from 11 am to 4 pm, at The Fat Quail Quilt Shop, 44550 North Highway 101, in Laytonville. Come vote for your favorite quilts! Raffle tickets can be purchased for this year's queen size quilt or one of the many raffle baskets. (Proceeds go towards scholarships for graduating Laytonville seniors.) Drawings on Sunday afternoon, no need to be present to win. The event is held outside so don't forget your hat.

Hot off the presses and available for purchase at the show will be the Fall/Winter 2014 issue of "Better Homes and Gardens Quilt Sampler" magazine. Debbie Bowles and her wonderful quilt fabric shop, The Fat Quail, are featured in the magazine along with nine other shops from across the United States. Come to the quilt show and help us to congratulate and celebrate with Debbie. See you at the show!

— submitted by Jody McGeen for The Fat Quail Quilt Shop

A Shout-Out to Apple Pie Enthusiasts!

The 4th Annual Apple Pie Throwdown, held in conjunction with our "Not JUST Cowboy Poetry" event at Emandal-A Farm on a Willits, will be held Saturday afternoon, September 13. If you're a pie baker, this is the place to show off your stuff! Competition is great.... Spirits are high.... Appetites are huge!

This year, entrants must sign up in advance, by either calling the office at Emandal (459-5439), or sending a note via snail mail (16500 Hearst Post Office Road, Willits), or emailing (tamara@emandal.com). We are able to take 28 official pies (last year we had a few too many!) A pie without prior notice may or may not be entered, depending on numbers. Perhaps you will be one of the winners of an engraved, vintage rolling pin.

The "People's Choice" award is given to the pie with the most votes from the general public. However, the other categories, "Perfect Crust," "Best All Around Apple Pie," "Most Delectable Filling," "Most Unusual," and "Most Aesthetically Pleasing" are decided by sanctioned judges. There could be one or two of the same judges from last year, but we have enlisted the aid of our county sheriff, Tom Allman, to be part of the crew, along with Dave Watts, from Sanhedrin Nursery. There are a couple of others, pending.

Headliner for the concert



— Tam Adams, Emandal

Avenues to Wellness



Diabetes Prevention Tools

Learn why and how diabetes develops and the key measures to prevent and manage this disease, in this Avenues to Wellness program, on Tuesday, September 2, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Harrah Senior Center's Lakeside Room, 1501 Baechtel Road. Presenter Annie Dogali, RD, CDE, supports patients to prevent and manage diabetes.

Learn the impact of a high fiber, low fat diet for diabetes prevention; understand the importance of weight management/loss to avoid diabetes; and benefit from the latest updated physical activity guidelines to maintain your health.

Free to the public; donations appreciated. Refreshments will be served. For info: call 459-2777; email: atwforhealth@gmail.com; or visit www.avenuestowellness.org.

Ongoing Events

Willits Farmers Market: Summer market at City Park, every Thursday from 3 to 6 pm. Tomatoes!, greens, onions, strawberries, watermelon, summer squash, eggplant, cucumbers, peaches, squash and other summer produce, cut flowers, local meats and fish, dinner, crafts, live music, and more.

Grateful Gleaners: This volunteer crew is available to pick fruit that you aren't able to use, to donate to local organizations in need of fruit. If you're interested in having fruit picked by the Gleaners, or in volunteering with the group, contact the Gleaners' voice mail, 513-9489, and leave a message, and they will return your call as soon as possible.

The Emandal Choral: this community chorus based in Willits is beginning its 20th season, and you are welcome to join! Every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30 pm. No auditions necessary. The Choral meets upstairs at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. "We sing songs from all around the world in four-part harmony. Come sing in a fun and supportive environment!"

"Drawn Together," the August show at the Willits Center for the Arts, will display the works of 13 different artists, all showing work celebrating the human form. Runs through August 31. 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours are 4 to 7 pm Thursdays and Fridays, and noon to 3 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Info: 459-1726.

Willits Library Cyber Cafe: Enjoy a fresh cup of coffee in the conference room while browsing the internet. Coffee is \$1 a cup. Bring your own cup from home or buy a ceramic cup from the library for 50 cents. The cafe is open most Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 to noon, or until the coffee runs dry. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

Life Changes: Discussion and support group with Linda Posner, Wednesdays from 10 to 11 am. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

Smoking Cessation Program: Free "Freedom from Smoking" class sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at the MHM Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6 to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Willits Frontier Twirlers: Monday nights at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, from 6:45 to 8 pm, then dancing until 9 pm, with professional caller Lawrence Johnstone, who will teach and call. New beginner's class starts September 8, 7 to 8 pm. Info: 459-9526.

Free Sheriff's Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 11 from 6 to 7 pm, Tweens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Open Mic every Wednesday at 8:40 pm. Sign-ups start at 7 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Just For Fun Choir: directed and accompanied by Nancy New. Meets Mondays at the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, from 1 to 2:30 pm. Accepting new members of all ages and abilities. Info: call Nancy New at 459-1276.

Laytonville Farmers Market: Mondays from 2:30 to 4:30 pm in downtown Laytonville. Buy local: vegetables, apples, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork, jewelry, aprons, children's clothing, knife sharpening and more.



Currently Wandering

'Road schooling' family stops at Ridgewood Ranch

In July 2013, the Curren family walked away from their home in Lehi, Utah for the last time. Sam and Jess Curren and their three children, Rachel, 8, Andrew, 6, and Cara, 4, were about to embark on an adventure most of us can only dream about.

A house-swapping opportunity took them to Woodbridge, Virginia, and from there, they never looked back. The traveling bug chomped down on them firmly, and their house back in Utah sold before they even managed to return there. They packed up what belongings they would take, bought an Airstream travel trailer, and hit the road.

Thus far, they have traveled down the southern part of the East Coast, across the Gulf states and on into California, where they ended up in Willits a few weeks back. Sam's father, Paul Curren, is the camp director at Camp Noyo for Webelos Week, so they parked the trailer in Willits for the week and joined Paul at beautiful Camp Noyo.

Once back in Willits, they found themselves camping at Ridgewood Ranch. It was there that I caught up with this amazing family and gave them a mini-tour of the Ranch and its Seabiscuit memorabilia.

Some of their favorite things at the Ranch:

Jess loved seeing Red Pollard's silks.

Sam loved seeing original news clippings.

Rachel's favorite was the statue and Seabiscuit's stall.

Andrew's was the Stud Barn.

Little Cara loved showing her stuffed horse (named Secretariat!) Seabiscuit's stall.

When asked what the most profound change in their lives has been as a result of their new lifestyle, Sam replied: "Your priorities change! You realize what is really important." They school the children in what they call "road school" as opposed to "home school," and the children are thriving.

From Willits, the family headed north to the Avenue of the Giants. They plan to travel for several years before settling down once the children are older. Sam works via his computer, and Jess is a photographer.

You can follow the Curren family's travels on their "Currently Wandering" Facebook page, or their website: www.currentlywandering.com.

Editor's Note: The Seabiscuit Heritage Foundation offers docent-led walking tours of Ridgewood Ranch, including Seabiscuit's Stud Barn and Mare Barn, on selected Saturdays. The next tour is Saturday, September 6. Starts at 9:30 pm. \$20; children under 11 are free. Reservations online at www.seabiscuitheritage.org or call 459-5992.



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As part of our mission to improve the health of our community, we are excited to bring quality care closer to home. Meet your care team at the newly opened Redwood Medical Clinic.



John Glycer, MD | Family Practice

Dr. Glycer has served the Willits community for 37 years. He enjoys caring for adult and pediatric patients. Dr. Glycer also has a special interest in caring for patients in recovery from drug and alcohol.



Suki Spillner, FNP-BC | Family Practice

Ms. Spillner is excited to serve the community of Willits and is accepting both adult and pediatric patients. She enjoys managing complex chronic illnesses, with an emphasis on health education and helping her patients achieve their goals.

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The rest of Well | From Page 1

the well driller to come out and drill a test well for Elias," Public Works Director Rod Wilburn said.

Willits' emergency water project started last winter when the city imposed water use limits on businesses and homes, and reservoirs looked quick to dry up without any rain.

The Elias well is an old ranch well, and the city needs to replace it with a new well that meets California Department of Public Health standards, such as a concrete seal built to CDPH requirements.

The city hopes to have work done before the rains come. If they don't arrive, the continuing drought could buy the city some more time. "If it's dry into January and February again, we will not have any trouble getting out there," Wilburn said.

The emergency water system was engineered to link two city-owned wells to a new water treatment plant.

The city estimated the project to cost about \$2 million. City Manager Adrienne Moore said she is talking with legislative representatives to secure funding for the entire

project.

"All of a sudden it seems the rest of California has discovered we have a water issue," Councilman Ron Orenstein said. "At some point, the money will either come or it will not, and we will deal with that."

Also on the city's waiting list for the project are final plans for a building to house a new water treatment plant and a permit to cross a creek with a water pipe.

Willits two reservoirs are about 100 to 125 acre feet ahead of water levels last year. Wilburn says the city's Stage 1 water conservation is still working.

Stage 1 means the City of Willits asks water customers to voluntarily reduce use 20 percent from last year. The policy also encourages prudence in tending to leaky faucets and keeping a shutoff valve on the end of your hose.

The city council renewed the water emergency for another 30 days. Approval of the emergency was gained through a vote on the city's consent calendar, where a single vote approves a list of noncontroversial business.

The rest of SEIU | From Page 1

In addition, SEIU members ratified other provisions of the offer, which included one additional day of "personal leave" that may be taken at any time prior to June 30, 2015. The county's offer also includes a promise not to raise healthcare premiums for employees in 2015.

Sookne detailed other provisions included in the county's offer. "Bilingual pay goes up from \$32 to \$40 for every two weeks," she said. "Department of Transportation road workers will get \$100 instead of \$50 for the reflective clothing they must pay for."

"If any other bargaining unit gains a greater amount of money than we have, we can go back to the table," Sookne said.

Sookne attempted to put the offer in perspective: "If a person earns a gross salary of \$40,000, then the \$1,200 is a 3 percent raise in salary. For those who earn less, it is a greater percentage increase. For those who earn more, it is a smaller percentage raise."

"Our union has the lowest-paid workers in the county, and it was important to get something into the workers' pockets rather than fight more right now and get nothing for another year," said Sookne.

Joe Louis Wildman, former SEIU rep in Mendocino County, posted a comment on the SEIU Facebook page on August 8, urging members to approve the county offer.

"A short agreement means you put the money in your pocket and come back fighting even harder. Nobody should be satisfied, but voting 'no' advances nothing," Wildman wrote.

SEIU employees have not received a raise since 2009. Soon after that new

contract went into effect, the impact of the October 2008 national financial crisis was felt locally, and SEIU employees, along with other county employees, accepted a 10 percent pay cut.

County administration attempted to increase that cut to 12 percent in 2011, but that move was declared illegal by the Public Employee Relations Board and the cut was bumped back to 10 percent.

As a result, SEIU employees are currently being paid what they were being paid in 2007. In September 2013, SEIU employees staged a one-day strike.

Third District Supervisor John Pinches said he approved of the contract offer.

"The reason we did it now is, we were at the table with 'em. We were negotiating," Pinches said. "The reason we did it is, this gives lower-level employees the same amount of money as higher-paid employees. We wanted to bring that lower portion up, and this does it."

"And the other thing, I guess another reason we did it is, we could afford it. I've always supported - and I think my colleagues on the board have supported - paying our employees more," Pinches said. "But we have to be able to sustain it. Because the worst thing you can do is give 'em a raise, then the next year you turn around and say, 'We have to lay a couple hundred of you off.'"

"I feel good about it," Pinches said. The issue will come up for final approval at the August 26 board meeting. It is expected supervisors will approve the new contract.

The rest of Fire | From Page 1

CalFire has called off all evacuation orders and warnings. CalFire's Mendocino Unit took back operational control of the fire from Incident Management Team 4 on Tuesday afternoon. Firefighters and equipment continue to be released to fight other blazes or return to their home units.

Steep terrain in the fire area has made access challenging. Some portions of the fire will continue to burn and may produce smoke for an extended period of time, CalFire officials say.

Depending on which way the wind blows, there has sometimes been heavy smoke blanketing the Willits area, with other days relatively smoke-free.

The Mendocino County Air Quality Management District has been monitoring area air quality over the course of the fire. The district says

smoke concentration will vary depending upon location, weather, and distance from the fire.

About five fire engines, eight fire crews, nine bulldozers, one helicopter, 11 water tender trucks, and 366 personnel continued to fight the fire as of Wednesday evening.

Current rates CalFire pays for hired equipment were set in May 2014 and are good until 2017. Bulldozers called to a fire can make from \$1,149 a day for a small dozer and one operator, to almost \$6,000 per day for a large dozer and two operators, hired equipment documents state.

A 2,000 gallon truck that can pump 120 gallons per minute costs from \$1,870 per day with one driver to more than \$2,800.

The rest of Planner | From Page 1

With no planner on hand, city hall sought a deal with the county planning department to meet some of the city's planning needs.

Steve Dunicliff, head of the county's Planning and Building Services Department, worked with City Manager Adrienne Moore to set up the \$50,000 contract.

"I knew I could talk with him and do some brainstorming," Moore said.

Dunicliff said he was happy to help out.

Brooktrails resident and county Planner Dusty Duley will handle planning part-time at city hall.

The deal for planning services is for 18 hours a week, with a planner available Monday and Wednesday.

Work for Duley will include handling use permits, an expansion at Mendo Mill, and business with the new Howard Memorial Hospital on East Hill Road.

"We are very pleased to have the opportunity to help Willits as a neighboring jurisdiction," said Dunicliff.

The empty city planner's desk followed the departure of retired Planner Alan Fallari and a newly hired planner who stayed with the city only a short time.

Duley was introduced to city council members at last week's council meeting.

The rest of Doris | From Page 6

those instead. To give you an example, a lot of people express anger when they are actually feeling inferior, helpless, sad, hurt, jealous, etc. They cover up their actual feelings with anger. In reality, they might need some words of reassurance, an acknowledgement for something they did, or maybe just a hug.

If your son learns how to express his actual needs, he will have learned an important life lesson for all his relationships. Some people learn this on their own, while others might need professional help. In the case of children, it is important that the parents are adept at expressing their actual feelings and needs so they can model this behavior to their children.

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Community Hu Song

In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song, Thursday, August 28, at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E. Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

Computer Help

Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC and Macintosh. Repairs and configuration \$35/hr. Tutoring \$15/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email macamerin@yahoo.com.

Concerts in Ukiah

Ukiah Community Concert Association: bringing world class artists to area for reasonable prices. \$70 for 2014-15 season, 5 fabulous concerts starting Sept. 23. Further info, Maggie Graham, Volunteer, 459-2305.

Family Photo Time!

The holiday season is quickly approaching and now is the time to schedule your family pictures for cards and more! Call Willits' Photographress Maureen Moore at 972-7047 to reserve your date while sessions are still available for the 2014 season!

For Rent

Studio Loft Apt., 430 sq. ft., quiet neighborhood, centrally located. All utilities included, NS. \$700 per mo. First, last and deposit. 707-354-2473.

For Rent

Office rentals in Willits for Holistic Practitioners. New workshop & event space. Cleaning/Utilities included. \$500/month or \$250/2-3 days per week. Call 459-1840 or email macemoving@gmail.com.

For Sale

Red Scooter Chair, perfect condition, charger and accessories. \$300. Call 456-9204.

The Fruit Group

Lug boxes of pesticide-free fruit. Freestone Peaches, Yellow or White & Freestone Nectarines, Yellow or White: 23-lb. field lug: \$25. Vine-ripened tomatoes: 30-lb Field lug: \$26. Bartlett pears \$21. Pluots \$25. Tomatoes \$26. Willits: Brenda 459-9335. Ukiah: Deanna: 391-7736. Potter & RV: Deanna: 391-7736. Ft. Bragg: Karen: 937-4664. Laytonville: Heather: 984-7430. Lakeport: Linda: 279-8840.

Help Wanted

Currently looking for owner operators and Class A drivers. F/T year-round work. Come by 400 North Lanore Avenue to fill out an application, Mon-Fri, 8 am to 5 pm.

Help Wanted

Northbrook is looking for an Activity Assistant. For more info, please call Kathy at 459-5592.

Help Wanted

Willits Weekly is looking for a freelance photographer/reporter to do some community feature assignments. Experience a plus, but not necessary. Potential for more work, as Willits Weekly continues to grow. Call Jennifer at 459-2633 for more information.

Lost Dog

Ginger is a female boxer puppy who was last seen at 1480 Baechtel Road in Willits on our front porch on Friday August 15. Ginger has white tips on all four paws. Call 707-354-4516 or 707-354-4518. Please help us find her: she belongs to a 5-year-old little girl.

Piano for Sale

Vose & Sons Upright Cabinet Grand. Serial # 33145 Boston. Turn of the century construction. Ivory keys, great condition. \$500 or best offer. 707-354-2473.

Room for Rent

Clean, quiet room, and private bath. Blackout thermal drapes. Wifi, cable. New mini fridge. \$450/month. Includes utilities. No pets. 354-2520.

Rummage Sale

Every Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm at 1st Baptist Church, 145 Wood Street. Rain or shine. We accept rummage donations, and have an ever-changing selection of goods!

Sewing and Alterations

Seamstress and Sewing Teacher. Visit my webpage: Zibergirl.com. Ph #: 707-367-6182 Willits

Things to sell?

Willits Weekly's classified ads are an inexpensive and effective way to sell your goods, let people know about your services and get your word out to the community! Just \$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks!

Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteer Coordinator wanted to help organize and schedule groups and individuals participating in the Saturday Brown Bag Lunch Program for hungry people in Willits. Also looking for more groups. For more information, please call Jan at 707-841-7819.

Send us your ad! willitsweekly@gmail.com

If you have any relationship questions, please send them to doriswier@embracetheconflicts.com or to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490. I am happy to answer your questions anonymously in my column every third Thursday of the month. Until then.

Doris Wier is a certified relationship system and life coach who works and lives in Willits. She coaches individuals, couples, families, and professionals. In addition she offers Explore-Shops on conflict resolution and deepening your intimacy and connection in your partnership.

For more information on the process call 707-456-9246. www.embracetheconflicts.com and www.facebook.com/doriswier

Serving the Seniors of our Community

Why come to the Harrah Center?

- Come to lunch!** Monday-Friday, 11:45 am to 12:00 pm
- Love breakfast?** Every 2nd Sunday, 8:00 to 11 am
- Volunteer opportunity!** Consider lending a helping hand
- Low cost transportation!** 8 am-4 pm door to door
- Medical equipment!** Available at no charge
- Outreach!** Information and assistance
- Meals on Wheels!** For homebound folks 55 and older
- Activities galore!** Games, classes, music, presentations
- Thrift store!** 9 am-4:30 pm Monday-Friday, Saturday 9 am-4 pm

Call for more information
459-6829 • 1501 Baechtel Road

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One Amazing Mariposa Mural

A new canvas mural is hanging in the Mariposa Market deli that features food and sights of Mendocino County. The 2.5 foot by 8.5 foot painting was commissioned by Mariposa Market owner Mary Anne Trevey from friend and 13-year health and beauty department employee, Marta Alonso.

Originally hailing from Spain, the 14-year Willits resident and self-taught painter had been dabbling in art: being a self-proclaimed "frustrated wannabe artist all my life."

The "kick in the pants" came from Blue Sky Gallery owner Susanne Picetti who, after seeing some pencil-drawn greeting cards Alonso had created with her raw talent, encouraged her to get serious and take professional classes.

Alonso was able to connect with Willits artist Cynda Valle, who was teaching oil painting classes, and Alonso said the connection of the two artists was the "match of the century."

"She's such an amazing teacher and artist!" said Alonso.

After getting more and more skilled and gaining confidence with her own work, Alonso was approached by Trevey to make something to hang at Mariposa. She excitedly accepted the job – and her first commissioned task – and ran with it!

Alonso started work in April with Valle's guidance and encouragement, and worked diligently over the following months carefully blocking in the elements of the mural and filling them with detail.

Bees and honey, strawberries, snails, a rooster and his harem, fresh eggs, a black-and-white goat, a rustic barn, corn, eggplant, apple tree and blossoms, grapes, a ladybug, tree-covered hills and a bird in flight are all showcased on the mural.

"Being a single mother of a 12-year-old, and working fulltime, I had to be disciplined in focusing on working on

the painting," Alonso explained. "My boy was very patient with being told 'no' about going off and doing things, since I had to finish the mural. But now, maybe a little vacation fun is in order; he was so encouraging of me during the whole process!"

The painting now proudly hangs at the Mariposa Market deli, and Alonso and Trevey encourage everyone to come in and check it out at the store. Mariposa Market will be celebrating its 35th anniversary on Wednesday, August 27, from 11 to 4 pm, with music, food, and other festivities.

Alonso is looking forward to doing additional commissions and projects, including one of her favorite subjects: portraits. Anyone interested in learning more about Alonso's work or who would like to commission her, can stop by the market or contact her at canillar@yahoo.com.

– Maureen Moore



Willits Youth Soccer Camp

Visiting coaches from England and Ireland teach Willits kids

Willits Youth Soccer offered a Challenger Sports British Soccer Camp for the second year this summer, hosting three coaches from England and Ireland. Thirty-four Willits Youth Soccer players, ages 3 to 13, attended the fun and educational soccer camp the week of July 28, camp coordinator Saprina Rodriguez reported.

"It's a great way to kick off the beginning of the soccer season," she said.

The Challenger coaches live in Europe and travel to the United States for several months out of the year to coach professional camps, work with coaches, and immerse

themselves in the American culture.

Challenger coaches Sally Vicery-Aldred and Steve Thomas from England and coach Benjamin Gibson from Ireland enjoyed the scenery around Mendocino County. "They scuba-dived in Mendocino, dirt-biked, and took in the beauty of the giant redwood trees," Rodriguez said. "We, the Rodriguez family, as their host family, treated them to dinners surrounded by a large family of nine serving mostly Mexican dishes. We all enjoyed sharing stories around fashion, politics, common phrases, architecture and, most of all, soccer highlights around the world."

Clockwise from top: Attendees and coaches at Willits Youth Soccer's 2014 Challenger Soccer Camp.

Kids playing soccer at camp. Coaches Benjamin Gibson from Ireland, left, and coaches Steve Thomas and Sally Vicery-Aldred, from England, enjoyed their stay in Willits. Front row: Soccer players Eric and Mariah Rodriguez.



Kinetic carnivals

Sunday at Kinetic Carnivals featured the Hand Car Races at the Skunk Train Depot and the Beard & Mustache Competition.

Photos clockwise from top left: Arne Bielefeldt, winner of the "Best Beard Overall" award. Gabe and Holly Madrigal, in their "Racing to Win" handcar.



Beard & Mustache Competition judge Poplock Holmes. County Sheriff Tom Allman and former contestant Jeremy Sammon were also judges.

Phil and Richard Jergenson in their "Gridbeamer" handcar. A noteworthy entrant in the beard contest. The "Pineapple Express" handcar, with Dawn Thomas and Bob Van de Walle, which shared an "Extraordinary Creative Engineering" award with the "USS Yellow Submarine" handcar. Fastest handcar was "Mascarade" by the Elliott Family, and slowest handcar was "Wowmobile" by Wowser.

The Kokomotive, with Lara Eventide, at left, Wendy Copperfield and other Kinetic revelers. "Best Mustache" winner Greg Schindel. Abram Boosinger won the "Most Peculiar" beard award.



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Thanks to the Grateful Gleaners



From top to bottom: At top: Farm School Director Antonia Partridge and a crew of visiting AmeriCorps volunteers celebrate the Planet Junior seeder. Middle: The seeder in action. Bottom: A close-up of the Planet Junior seeder, a hand-powered piece of equipment with a basic design perfected over a century ago.

A new seeder for the Grange Farm School

Oftentimes, the best solutions for community issues come out of the community itself. One example of this occurred in Willits last month, when two community organizations concerned about creating local and sustainable food systems – the Grange Farm School and the Grateful Gleaners – came together to purchase a much-needed Planet Junior seeder for the school's farmer education program.

Earlier this year, the Grange Farm School at Ridgewood Ranch lost its initial two-year funding and was looking for ways to maintain and improve its facilities and programs to train the next generation of farmers. The school turned to a community fundraising campaign to try and recover from losing this important seed money, which had been intended to help build facilities, complete irrigation, and further develop the school's educational offerings. In addition, the farm school had been hoping to purchase a seeder to save time – and farmers' backs – while performing the essential labor of farming itself.

That's when Willits' Grateful Gleaners realized that they had just enough money left from their annual plant sale to assist with the cost of the Planet Junior seeder – a \$520 human-powered piece of equipment with a basic design perfected over a century ago. The seeder comes with a variety of attachments, including a seeder, a sweeper for thinning plants, hoes, a turning plow, an oscillating tool, and cultivator teeth. Now a new generation of farmers can experience using energy-efficient technology in the fields.

"This tool is an incredible human-powered device that saves time and energy, as well as saving our backs and joints," explains Farm Grange School Assistant Director Ruthie King. "The Farmer Brown company sells these new models of the Planet Junior with the saying 'Yesterday's Technology for Today's Times,' and we agree that so many of the techniques

and tools that were used in the past are still relevant and important today."

For the Gleaners, who are also concerned with creating more sustainable local food communities, donating the cost of the equipment fit perfectly with their mission. "Our group rescues what normally goes to waste. But we know that there is a need for locally grown food," said Gleaner organizer Karen Gridley. "We love supporting the growing of local food and young people, and we heard how much the seeder would make a difference for the farm school."

The farm school has already been putting the Planet Junior – now nicknamed "Hoss" – to work on seeding, weeding, and planting quinoa that has already germinated. A group of young AmeriCorps volunteers came to help and learn at the school for most of July. They've found that there's no comparison between the seeder's efficiency and using hand tools.

The school also plans to continue working with the Gleaners, harvesting apples at the school orchard this fall.

The Grange Farm School will be part of the WELL community garden tour this Saturday, August 23. The tour starts at the Willits Elementary Charter School garden, on the corner of Lenore and Commercial streets, with registration at 9:30 am. For more information, see the Calendar page or contact Paul Jacobson at 459-1418.

The farm school is also still eagerly accepting donations via check; please make checks payable to NCO/Grange Farm School, and mail to Grange Farm School, 291 School Street, Willits. The Gleaners have just completed their first collection of the season and are always looking for volunteers, who get to take home some of the fruit collected. To get in touch, please call 513-9489 and leave a message; calls will be returned as soon as possible.

The rest of **Food Plan** | From Page 1

areas. The council is recognized by Mendocino County and the county's four city councils as an advisory body.

Paulin described the plan as a "road map" of interconnected goals and actions developed from a "community-driven process." The MFAP was designed to function as a community resource and was developed through a series of public meetings, stakeholder interviews, and community input over the last several years.

The process began in 2010 with an NCO-sponsored Local Food Summit, which brought together more than 150 community members to discuss the needs and goals of regional food producers and the economic impact of Mendocino County's local food system.

Despite the county's rich agricultural tradition, only 2 percent of food (produce and livestock) is being purchased locally, and overall acreage devoted to fruit and vegetable cultivation had been declining for over a decade, with sales comprising only 1 percent of the county's agricultural value in 2009.

That decline also is evident in the number of county farm jobs and the overall number of farms in the county, which have been operating overall at a substantial loss for several years.

One of the MFAP's many goals is to encourage individuals and institutions to purchase 15 percent of their food locally, which would bring an additional \$20 million a year to the county's farm economy. Paulin proposed the county consider a 10 percent local food policy for government events and purchases.

One of the MFAP's primary objectives is to provide new opportunities for future farmers, including access to land, capital, and mentors, and to support increased economic opportunities for current producers.

NCO has been furthering the plan's goals in a variety of ways, including the development of the Brookside Community Farm with Brookside Elementary School in Willits, where two young farmers have started a farm that produces food for the school and for the Willits Farmers Market. The new Grange Farm School at Ridgewood Ranch, the annual North Coast Farmers' Convergence, and a new sustainable agriculture certification at Mendocino College are other examples of such efforts.

Another program that has come out of the MFAP is the Approved Source Plan, which certifies local farms for institutional purchases.

Supervisors Carre Brown, Hamburg, and Gjerde have all participated in MFAP meetings, or been more deeply involved in the process.

After the presentation, Brown mentioned several ways in which drought considerations are affecting local food producers and ways to include recycled water sources.

Both Supervisor John Pinches and Brown asked for further information about how to better include more community members, such as fast-food producers and more remote regional producers and ranchers, in the regular meeting process. Pinches also expressed his desire to see a livestock producer as a voting member on the FPC.

Supervisors also enjoyed a locally sourced lunch catered by the Ford Street Project in Ukiah, one of the job-training programs NCO has helped facilitate under MFAP.

Those wishing copies of the plan can download the whole document, highlights or individual chapters, from www.gardensproject.org/projects/foodpolicycouncil.

Interested members of the public are encouraged to attend Food Policy Council meetings on Mondays each month, from 2 to 3:30 pm, at the agricultural commissioner's office, 890 North Bush Street, in Ukiah. Meetings are scheduled for September 8, October 20, November 17 and December 8.

Roots of Motive Power steam-up adds a lumberjack show

Roots of Motive Power is gearing up to present its annual Steam Festival on Saturday, September 6 and Sunday, September 7, featuring – for the first time – the Timberwork's Lumberjack Show. The Roots crew will be steaming up their vintage logging and rail equipment for this festival, as they have done for more than 30 years now, and they will be offering free steam train rides.

Word is that Roots will run a double-header steam locomotive on Saturday, with both the Mason County No. 7 Baldwin locomotive and the Heister No. 1 locomotive. Saturday's steam-up and train rides will be offered from 9 am to 4 pm.

Another crowd favorite, the Bucyrus Steam Shovel, which has been out of commission for a while, said Michael Hammang, a Roots member who's doing publicity for this festival, "will be digging holes out back." The 75-ton machine "is an incredible piece of equipment," Hammang said, "a beautiful thing to watch."

Roots will also be showing off its 1940 Raymond F440 Steam Crane: "We'll attempt, again, to delicately break an egg without crushing the hot glass that it's in," Hammang laughed. "And we'll be denting soda cans, to show the fact that this 75-year-old piece of equipment can still be used delicately like a modern-day hydraulic."

And the Early Days Gas Engine & Tractor Association will be displaying vintage and original steam contraptions at the Rec Grove Park as usual.

But, Hammang said: "It was decided we needed to do something to make the event even better this year."

The Timberwork's Lumberjack Show was set to be in California already around the upcoming Roots weekend, and so the deal was done. Timberwork's cruises the country, and beyond, performing at more than 50 different venues each year. The show "offers spectators a unique blend of logging history, world class competition, and plenty of hilarious comedy," with contests like Hot Saw, Speed Carving, Obstacle Pole Relay Race, Axe Throw, Speed

Climb, Single Buck, Underhand Chop, Springboard Chop, and Logrolling or birling, one of the most difficult lumberjack events of all time.

In addition to the two professional shows, set for 1 and 6 pm on Saturday, Roots will host a local lumberjacks contest at 7 pm on Saturday. The locals competitions will include crosscutting with handsaws, "Jack and Jill" (a man and a woman on a handsaw), log rolling, ax throwing and log carrying.

Hammang said about half of the 16 slots for local contestants are already taken up, so anyone interested in signing up needs to move fast.

Also, this year, the Frontier Days barbecue crew will be doing their famous Frontier Days barbecue, "the whole shebang," Hammang said, on Saturday from 2 to 5 pm at the Rec Grove. Other Saturday events include a Classic Car Show, a Beer and Wine Reception, and a Raffle and Silent Auction.

The raffle and auction is a big fundraiser for Roots, Hammang said. "That's really how we support our year's work. Come on over, and help support Roots by bidding on an item."

"I think kids of all ages should take the opportunity to come see the equipment that built America in operation," Hamman said, "the glory of the industrial revolution. Without this equipment, this country would not be the way we see it. It is important that we preserve and demonstrate this equipment."

"A live steam demonstration is better than reading about it or hearing about it," he said. "You can walk right up to this equipment, get close to it, feel the heat, and understand what these operators had to go through to use this equipment.... And don't forget to ask us to let you blow the steam whistles!"

Anyone wishing to donate items for the auction or the silent raffle or interested in signing up for the locals lumberjacks contest – or anyone who'd like to help out during the weekend, with ticket sales or other volunteer tasks – should call Hammang at 354-1918.

The rest of **Bypass** | From Page 1

The Willits Environmental Center and Keep the Code filed the request for a TRO on Tuesday. Both groups filed a lawsuit in April against the County of Mendocino for granting the grading permit. That lawsuit is expected to come to trial in December.

Caltrans spokesman Phil Frisbie said the latest delay would mostly likely mean another year's delay in the completion of the bypass.

"The cost of the project will go up a minimum of \$8 to \$12 million because of that year's delay," he said.

"At this point," Frisbie said, "it's unlikely that even if our contractor's crews started hauling soil 24/7 on September 9, the day after the hearing, they'd be able to move enough soil by the end of this year's construction season." Frisbie said the soil needed to settle over the winter for it to be compact enough for bridge building on the northern interchange to begin next year.

A Tuesday press release from the Coalition to Save Little Lake Valley announced the request for a temporary restraining order. It says the lawsuit filed by WEC and KTC alleges "failure to disclose potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed excavation, including impacts to known spotted owl nesting sites, lack of any reclamation plan, aesthetic impacts of mining the hillside, and direct and indirect impacts to Native American archeological sites."

The rest of **Cited** | From Page 1

water department and learned Bouthillier did not have permission to take the water.

Deputies arrested Bouthillier on suspicion of utilities theft and took him to the Willits Sheriff's Substation, where he was cited and released for the misdemeanor violation.

Previously, the Willits Police Department cited a Red Bluff man who admitted to police he had filled up his water tender at a city fire hydrant.

The California Penal Code sets the fine for grand theft at \$950, an amount greater than the value of water taken to fill up a truck.

Police submitted a case against the Red Bluff man to the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office.

Both Willits and Brooktrails have water conservation policies in effect.

Brooktrails limits water use to 200 gallons per day and 6,000 gallons per month. Willits asks water users to voluntarily cut back 20 percent from last year.

Willits' Stage 1 policy states "fire hydrants are not to be used for any other purpose other than fighting fires, flushing lines or contraction needs that have been previously authorized by the city."

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Far left: The front of the line on Friday.

At left: The first three prospects to be interviewed at the job fair came with special recommendations.

Left, below: A peek inside Grocery Outlet on Friday, as renovations continue.

Below: A smiling team: owner/operator Brock McDowell, left, his sister, office manager Lacey McDowell, and grocery manager Eric Olecik.

Photos by Jennifer Poole



GROCERY OUTLET

bargain market

Grocery Outlet hires workers for new Willits store during on-site job fair

About 50 hopefuls were standing in line at noon outside the soon-to-open Grocery Outlet on Friday, day 1 of the two-day job fair for the store at the Evergreen Shopping Center.

"They started lining up at 10 am," Brock McDowell, owner/operator of the new discount grocers in town, said happily. "We already took some resumes."

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
jennifer@willitsweekly.com

Brock McDowell's sister, Lacey McDowell, who'll be office manager for the new store, and grocery manager Eric Olecik were also set to interview job seekers. All three were happy and excited to be close to opening the store.

Brock's parents, Heidi and Monty McDowell, have been owner/operators of the Ukiah Grocery Outlet for about three years, and did the same in Southern California before that, Heidi McDowell said. "It's a family business," she said. Heidi and Monty were helping out with the job fair, too.

Brock worked with his parents in the Ukiah store, and with Grocery Outlet in Washington state. Most recently he has been an AOT – an "Aspiring Operator in Training" at the Lakeport Grocery Outlet.

Grocery Outlet Willits plans a "soft opening" on September 11, with a ribbon cutting ceremony, and a grand opening on September 13.




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